





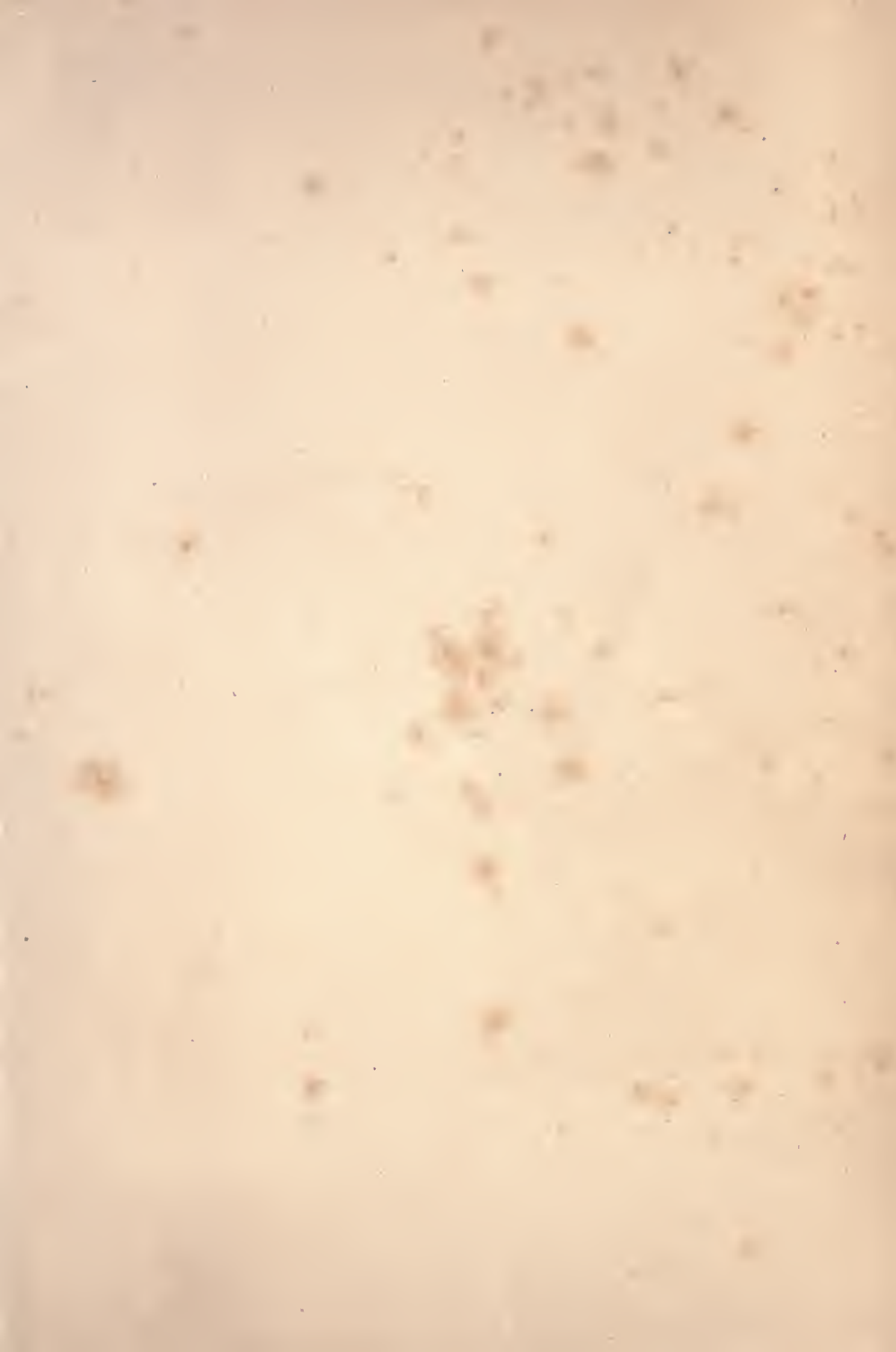
THE LIBRARY  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA  
LOS ANGELES















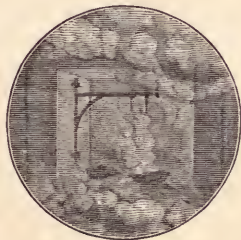


THE  
HANGING OF THE CRANE

BY

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

*WITH ILLUSTRATIONS*



BOSTON  
JAMES R. OSGOOD AND COMPANY  
LATE TICKNOR & FIELDS, AND FIELDS, OSGOOD, & Co.

1875

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1874,  
BY HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW,  
in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.



2264  
A1  
1875



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

*The Engravings by A. V. S. ANTHONY, under whose supervision the book is prepared, and W. J. LINTON.*

	ARTIST.	PAGE
THE GOLDEN WEDDING . . . . .	MARY A. HALLOCK	<i>Front.</i>
“The lights are out, and gone are all the guests, That thronging came with merriment and jests”	“	“ 15
“But still the fire upon the hearth burns on, And I alone remain”	“	“ 15
“Like a new star just sprung to birth”	“	“ 17
“So said the guests in speech and song”	“	“ 17
“As in the chimney, burning bright, We hung the iron crane to-night”	“	“ 18
“And now I sit and muse on what may be”	“	“ 21
“Shapes indeterminate, that gleam and fade As shadows passing into deeper shade”	“	“ 21
“They want no guests ; they needs must be Each other’s own best company”	“	“ 23

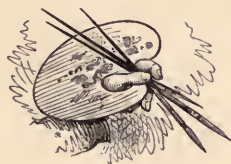
Exch.

“ More divine, The light of love shines over all ”	MARY A. HALLOCK	24
“ The picture fades ; as at a village fair A showman’s views, dissolve into the air ”	“ “	27
“ Through the open door I see the selfsame scene ”	“ “	27
“ A royal guest with flaxen hair, Who, throned upon his lofty chair ”	“ “	29
“ He ruleth by the right divine Of helplessness ”	“ “	30
“ The nurse comes rustling like the sea ”	“ “	31
“ And so good night to King Canute ”	“ “	32
“ As one who walking in a forest sees A lovely landscape through the parted trees ”	THOMAS MORAN	35
“ Or as we see the moon sometimes revealed Through drifting clouds ”	“ “	35
“ There are two guests at table now ”	MARY A. HALLOCK	37
“ A Princess from the Fairy Tales The very pattern girl of girls ”	“ “	37
“ Above their bowls with rims of blue Four azure eyes of deeper hue Are looking, dreamy with delight ”	“ “	38
“ The world that rolls With all its freight of troubled souls Into the days that are to be ”	THOMAS MORAN	39

"Again the tossing boughs shut out the scene, Again the drifting vapors intervene"	THOMAS MORAN	43
"As round a pebble into water thrown " Dilates a ring of light"	" "	43
"As if fair Ariadne's Crown Out of the sky had fallen down"	MARY A. HALLOCK	45
"Like timid birds that fain would fly, But do not dare to leave their nests"	" "	46
"In the divine knight-errantry Of youth, that travels sea and land Seeking adventures"	THOMAS MORAN	47
"And youths, who in their strength elate Challenge the van and front of fate"	MARY A. HALLOCK	48
"The meadow-brook, that seemeth to stand still"	THOMAS MORAN	51
"Quickens its current as it nears the mill"	" "	51
"The table dwindles, and again I see the two alone remain"	MARY A. HALLOCK	53
"In Ceylon or in Zanzibar, Or sunny regions of Cathay"	THOMAS MORAN	54
"In the boisterous camp Mid clink of arms and horse's tramp"	MARY A. HALLOCK	54
"I see the patient mother read, With aching heart"	" "	55
"Wrecks that float Disabled on those seas remote"	THOMAS MORAN	55

"There among the drowned or slain"	THOMAS MORAN	56
"After a day of clouds and wind and rain Sometimes the setting sun breaks out again"	" "	59
"Then like a ruby from the horizon's ring Drops down into the night"	" "	59
"The guests come thronging in once more, Quick footsteps sound along the floor"	MARY A. HALLOCK	61
"The trooping children crowd the stair"	" "	62
"The ancient bridegroom and the bride, Serenely smiling on the scene, Behold, well-pleased, on every side Their forms and features multiplied"	" "	63
"Or lamps upon a bridge at night Stretch on and on before the sight, Till the long vista endless seems"	THOMAS MORAN	64

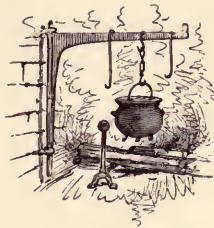
[The Emblematical and Ornamental Vignettes are drawn by JOHN J. HARLEY.]



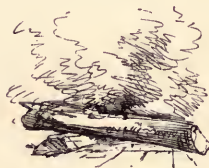








I.







THE lights are out, and gone are all the guests  
 That thronging came with merriment and jests  
 To celebrate the Hanging of the Crane  
 In the new house,—into the night are gone;  
 But still the fire upon the hearth burns on,

And I alone remain.







O fortunate, O happy day,  
When a new household finds its place  
Among the myriad homes of earth,





Like a new star just sprung to birth,  
And rolled on its harmonious way  
Into the boundless realms of space!



So said the guests in speech and song,  
As in the chimney, burning bright,  
We hung the iron crane to-night,  
And merry was the feast and long.





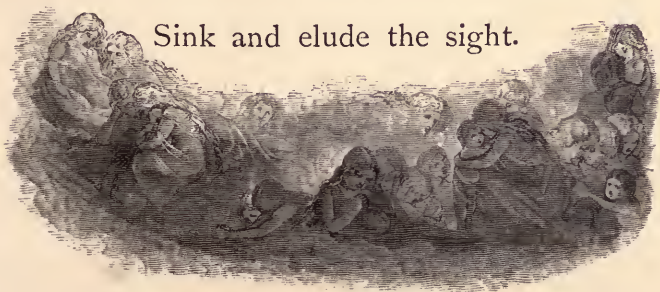
## II.







AND now I sit and muse on what may be,  
And in my vision see, or seem to see,  
Through floating vapors interfused with light,  
Shapes indeterminate, that gleam and fade,  
As shadows passing into deeper shade  
Sink and elude the sight.





For two alone, there in the hall,  
Is spread the table round and small;



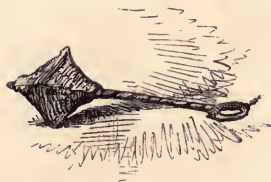
Upon the polished silver shine  
The evening lamps, but, more divine,  
The light of love shines over all;

Of love, that says not mine and thine,  
But ours, for ours is thine and mine.  
They want no guests, to come between  
Their tender glances like a screen,  
And tell them tales of land and sea,  
And whatsoever may betide  
The great, forgotten world outside;  
They want no guests; they needs must be  
Each other's own best company.





### III.









THE picture fades; as at a village fair  
A showman's views, dissolving into air,  
Again appear transfigured on the screen,  
So in my fancy this; and now once more,  
In part transfigured, through the open door  
Appears the selfsame scene.





Seated, I see the two again,  
But not alone; they entertain  
A little angel unaware,  
With face as round as is the moon;  
A royal guest with flaxen hair,  
Who, throned upon his lofty chair,  
Drums on the table with his spoon,



Then drops it careless on the floor,  
To grasp at things unseen before.  
Are these celestial manners? these  
The ways that win, the arts that please?  
Ah yes; consider well the guest,  
And whatsoe'er he does seems best;  
He ruleth by the right divine  
Of helplessness, so lately born  
In purple chambers of the morn,



As sovereign over thee and thine.  
He speaketh not; and yet there lies



A conversation in his eyes ;  
The golden silence of the Greek,  
The gravest wisdom of the wise,  
Not spoken in language, but in looks  
More legible than printed books,  
As if he could but would not speak.  
And now, O monarch absolute,  
Thy power is put to proof; for, lo!



Resistless, fathomless, and slow,  
The nurse comes rustling like the sea,  
And pushes back thy chair and thee,  
And so good night to King Canute.







#### IV.





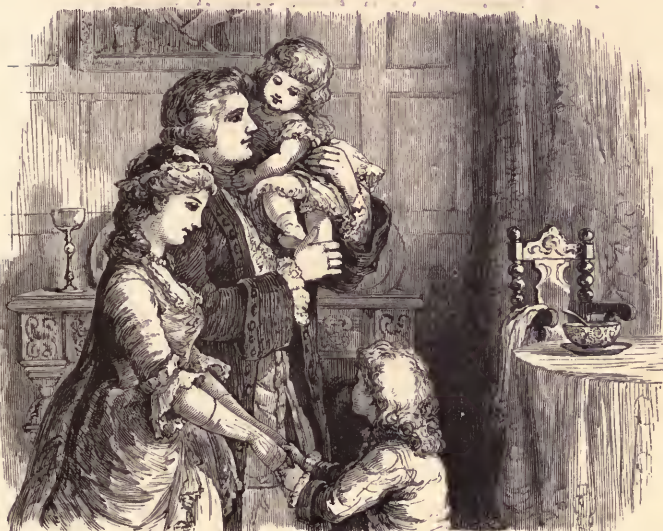


As one who walking in a forest sees  
A lovely landscape through the parted trees,  
Then sees it not, for boughs that intervene;  
Or as we see the moon sometimes revealed  
Through drifting clouds, and then again concealed,  
So I behold the scene.





There are two guests at table now;  
The king, deposed and older grown,  
No longer occupies the throne, —



The crown is on his sister's brow;  
A Princess from the Fairy Tales,



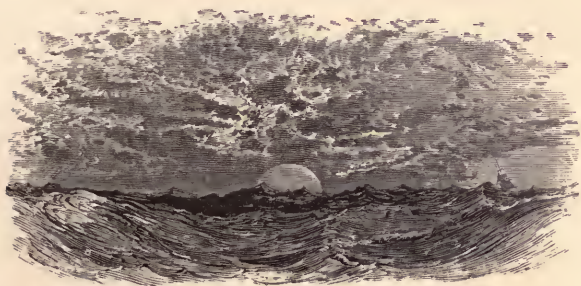
The very pattern girl of girls,  
All covered and embowered in curls,  
Rose-tinted from the Isle of Flowers,  
And sailing with soft, silken sails  
From far-off Dreamland into ours.  
Above their bowls with rims of blue  
Four azure eyes of deeper hue  
Are looking, dreamy with delight;



Limpid as planets that emerge  
Above the ocean's rounded verge,



Soft-shining through the summer night.  
Steadfast they gaze, yet nothing see  
Beyond the horizon of their bowls;  
Nor care they for the world that rolls  
With all its freight of troubled souls  
Into the days that are to be.









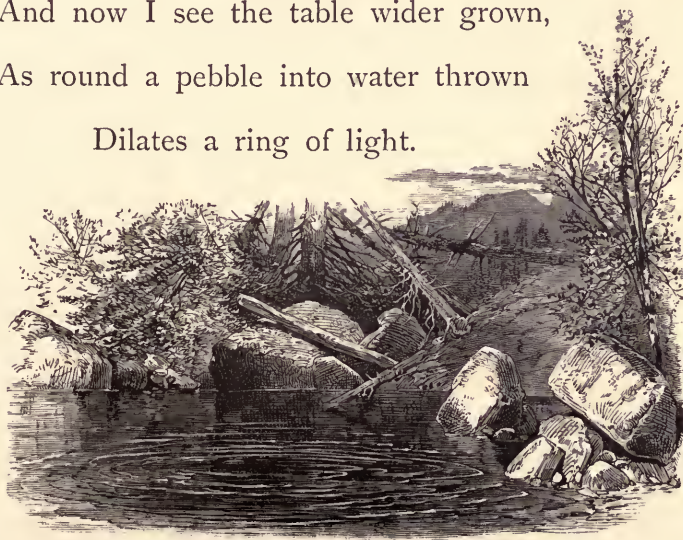
V.







AGAIN the tossing boughs shut out the scene,  
Again the drifting vapors intervene,  
And the moon's pallid disk is hidden quite;  
And now I see the table wider grown,  
As round a pebble into water thrown  
Dilates a ring of light.







I see the table wider grown,  
I see it garlanded with guests,  
As if fair Ariadne's Crown  
Out of the sky had fallen down ;  
Maidens within whose tender breasts  
A thousand restless hopes and fears,



Forth reaching to the coming years,  
Flutter awhile, then quiet lie,  
Like timid birds that fain would fly,



But do not dare to leave their nests;—  
And youths, who in their strength elate  
Challenge the van and front of fate,  
Eager as champions to be



In the divine knight-errantry  
Of youth, that travels sea and land



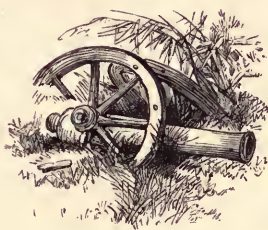
Seeking adventures, or pursues,  
Through cities, and through solitudes  
Frequented by the lyric Muse,  
The phantom with the beckoning hand,  
That still allures and still eludes.  
O sweet illusions of the brain!

O sudden thrills of fire and frost!  
The world is bright while ye remain,  
And dark and dead when ye are lost!





# VI.



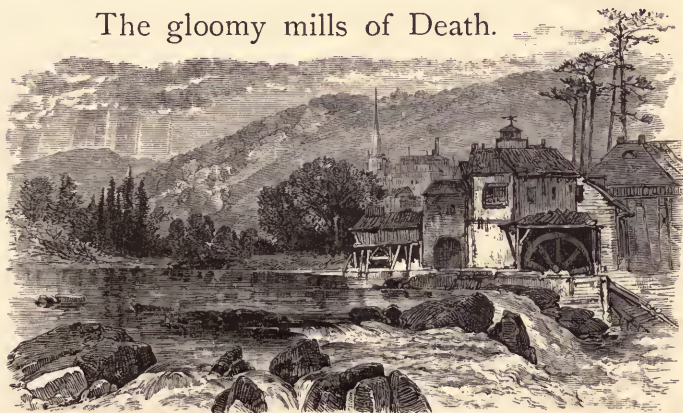




THE meadow-brook, that seemeth to stand still,  
Quickens its current as it nears the mill;

And so the stream of Time that lingereth  
In level places, and so dull appears,  
Runs with a swifter current as it nears

The gloomy mills of Death.







And now, like the magician's scroll,  
That in the owner's keeping shrinks  
With every wish he speaks or thinks,  
Till the last wish consumes the whole,



The table dwindles, and again  
I see the two alone remain.  
The crown of stars is broken in parts;  
Its jewels, brighter than the day,



Have one by one been stolen away  
To shine in other homes and hearts.  
One is a wanderer now afar



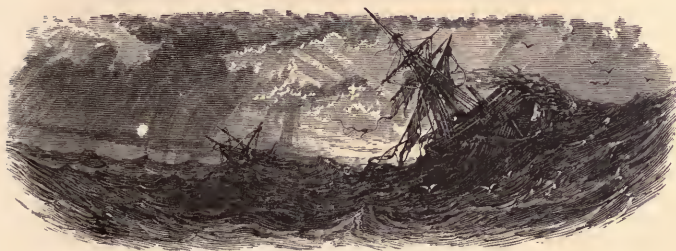
In Ceylon or in Zanzibar,  
Or sunny regions of Cathay;



And one is in the boisterous camp  
Mid clink of arms and horse's tramp,  
And battle's terrible array.



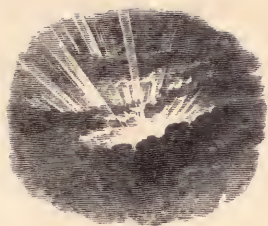
I see the patient mother read,  
With aching heart, of wrecks that float  
Disabled on those seas remote,



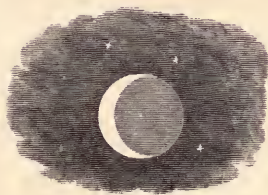
Or of some great heroic deed  
On battle-fields, where thousands bleed  
To lift one hero into fame.

Anxious she bends her graceful head  
Above these chronicles of pain,  
And trembles with a secret dread  
Lest there among the drowned or slain  
She find the one beloved name.





VII.









AFTER a day of cloud and wind and rain  
Sometimes the setting sun breaks out again, -  
And, touching all the darksome woods with light,  
Smiles on the fields, until they laugh and sing,  
Then like a ruby from the horizon's ring  
Drops down into the night.









What see I now? The night is fair,  
The storm of grief, the clouds of care,  
The wind, the rain, have passed away;  
The lamps are lit, the fires burn bright,  
The house is full of life and light:  
It is the Golden Wedding day.  
The guests come thronging in once more,

Quick footsteps sound along the floor,  
The trooping children crowd the stair,  
And in and out and everywhere  
Flashes along the corridor  
The sunshine of their golden hair.



On the round table in the hall  
Another Ariadne's Crown  
Out of the sky hath fallen down ;



More than one Monarch of the Moon  
Is drumming with his silver spoon ;  
The light of love shines over all.



O fortunate, O happy day!  
The people sing, the people say.  
The ancient bridegroom and the bride,  
Serenely smiling on the scene,  
Behold, well-pleased, on every side  
Their forms and features multiplied,  
As the reflection of a light  
Between two burnished mirrors gleams,  
Or lamps upon a bridge at night  
Stretch on and on before the sight,  
Till the long vista endless seems.











UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY  
Los Angeles

This book is DUE on the last date stamped below.

MAR 28 1962

MAY 17 1962

~~MAY~~ 24 1962

LD REC'D LD-URL  
URL MAY 7 1973

JAN 26 1974

REC'D LD-URL  
JAN 9 1978

NOV 4 1977

Form L9-50m-11,'50 (2554)444

THE LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
LOS ANGELES

UC SOUTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY FACILITY



AA 000 033 140 5

3 1158 00218 5519

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE  
THIS BOOK CARD

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

128 J95993



University Research Library

PS2264

A1 1875

CALL NUMBER

SER VOL PT COP

AUTHOR

